



West Fertilizer Plant Explosion

Regional Update

April 28, 2013, 1900 CDT

- Displaced residents were allowed into their homes for the second day (April 28, 2013). Displaced residents continued to retrieve personal belongings and evaluate homes. Commercial restoration companies have begun work in the affected neighborhood with the installation of blue roofs, removal of sheetrock and other tasks associated with restoration of homes in the neighborhood affected by the

explosion. Volunteer groups assisted throughout the affected neighborhood assisting the displaced residents.

- On April 28, 2013, EPA obtained the most recent total number of structures evaluated that have been damaged from the explosion. This total of 214 structures includes: residential structures; schools; nursing home; and businesses. The classification system is based on the percent of total damage to the structure and number of structures is as follows: 17 structures with no damage; 0 - 1% (6); 1 - 10% (1); 10 - 30% (15); 30 - 60% (34); 60 - 100% (50); 100% (81); and, unrated 10.
- On April 28, 2013 EPA continued daytime air monitoring activities with three stationary sites to the west and north of the facility. The northern monitoring site was added to provide a downwind site during south winds. The site is approximately one half mile north of the fertilizer facility. EPA will continue monitoring for the same parameters that include volatile organic compounds and ammonia. No air monitoring readings above background were detected during today's operations.
- The public drinking water system is still being evaluated throughout the City of West. The TCEQ, State of Texas Public Works Response Team and City of West personnel continued assessing the system on April 28, 2013. A boiled water notice remains in effect.
- EPA is compiling air monitoring data for ammonia to be uploaded onto the TCEQ website. EPA Toxicologist will assess results before submitting to TCEQ.
- EPA continues to coordinate with FEMA, ATF, OSHA, CSB, TCEQ, DSHS, and the Office of the Texas State Chemist on current and future site operations.
- TCEQ contractors continued conducting 24 hour air monitoring around the facility perimeter.
- An official statement of the cause of the incident has not been released. ATF investigations into the order of events and cause of the explosion are on-going.

| Personnel | EPA OSC On call | EPA RSC in Field | R6 Contractor In Field | National Criminal Enforcement Response Team Agents | EPA In REOC | Contractor In REOC | Total |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Total | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 8 |

*Current as of 1900hrs 4/27. OSC's deployed with the Mobile Command Post.